

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EA-06

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DRAFTED BY EA/TB:RMGIBSON:MGH

APPROVED BY EA/TB:GBROBERTS

EA/RA:WGALLAGHER

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DEA:DMINGIONE (DRAFT)

DEA:DADDARIO (DRAFT)

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R 110336Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 266540

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH

SUBJECT: DEA VISIT TO RANGOON

REF: RANGOON 3167

BANGKOK FOR DEA

1. DEPARTMENT AND DEA OFFICIALS APPRECIATE THE THOUGHTFUL SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL, AND HAVE DISCUSSED THEM WITH DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR ADDARIO HERE IN WASHINGTON. WHILE AGREEING THAT THE DEA CONTACT SHOULD BE AS USEFUL AS POSSIBLE TO THE GUB, WE WANT TO AVOID ALLOWING THE DEA REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR NECESSARY THAI-BURMESE LIAISON. OUR COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW.

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2. THE BURMESE SHOULD CERTAINLY BE ENCOURAGED TO DISCUSS FULLY THEIR OWN ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE. ALSO, ADDARIO WILL GIVE THE GUB A FULL BRIEFING ON CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING TRENDS, WITH EMPHASIS UPON SOUTHEAST ASIA AND DEA'S ROLE IN THAT REGION.

3. GIVEN THE STATE OF THAI-BURMA RELATIONS, THE DEPART-

MENT BELIEVES IT UNWISE TO HAVE ANY U.S. OFFICIAL FROM THAILAND EVALUATE, COMMENT UPON, OR OTHERWISE DESCRIBE THAT COUNTRY'S ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT TO THE GUB. INSTEAD, DEA VISITS TO RANGOON SHOULD BE USED AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO URGE THAT RTG AND GUB OFFICIALS GET TOGETHER ON THEIR OWN FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS. BEING CAREFUL NOT TO ADOPT A GO-BETWEEN ROLE, ADDARIO WILL SUGGEST TO BOTH GUB AND RTG OFFICERS THAT EACH INITIATE SUCH CONTACTS WITH THE OTHER.

4. PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS BOTH COMPLICATED AND EXPENSIVE, ESPECIALLY MULTI-SPECTRAL PHOTOGRAPHY (MSP). SINCE THE AVAILABILITY OF NARCOTICS FUNDS MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT LIMITED THIS YEAR, AND SINCE ADDARIO'S BACKGROUND IS NOT IN THE TECHNICAL FIELD, ALL CONCERNED WOULD PREFER THAT ANY DETAILED TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS, ESPECIALLY OF MSP, BE POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE.

5. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARIES OF ALL DEA-GUB MEETINGS.

6. MR. ADDARIO WILL COORDINATE TRAVEL DETAILS UPON HIS RETURN TO BANGKOK. KISSINGER

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